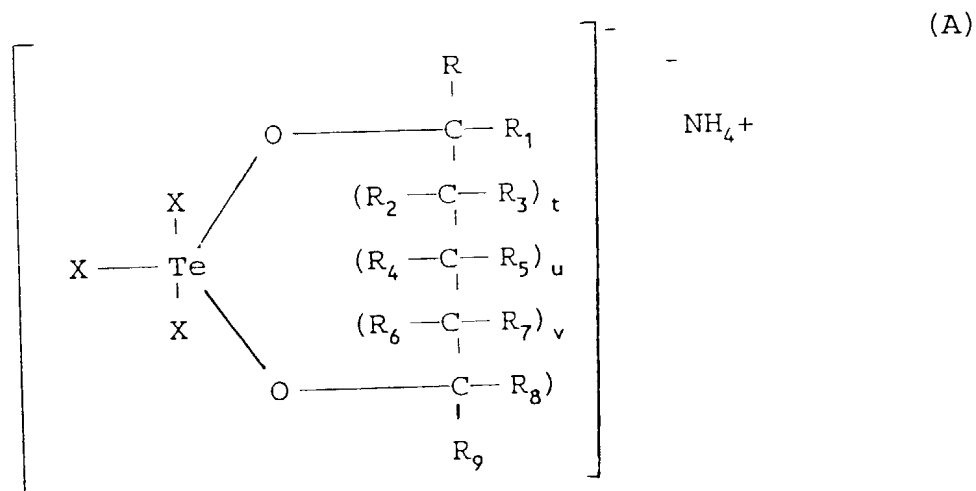


# IN THE CLAIMS

1. (withdrawn) A feed composition for enhancing the weight gain or feed conversion efficacy of poultry which comprises an effective amount of a source of tellurium.

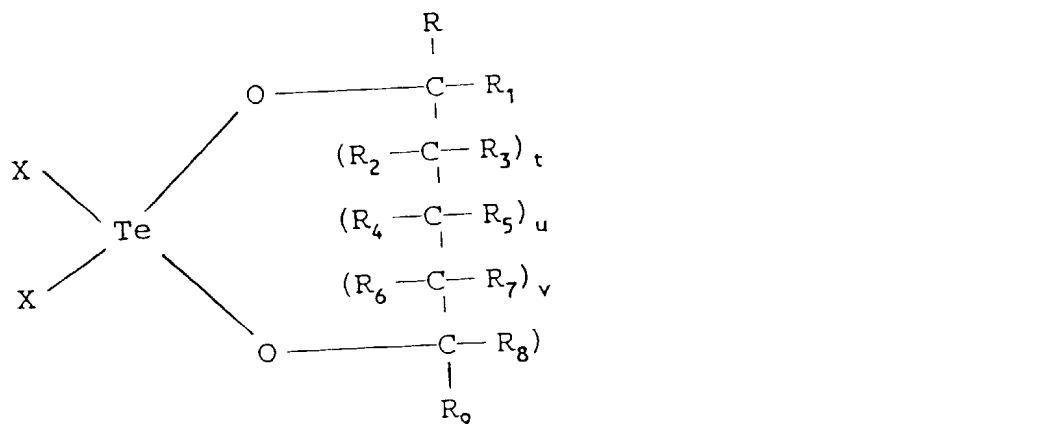
2. (withdrawn) A feed composition as in Claim 1, wherein the source of tellurium is an organic tellurium.

3. (withdrawn) A feed composition for enhancing the weight gain or feed conversion efficacy of poultry, comprising an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or the complex of  $\text{TeO}_2 \cdot \text{HOCH}_2\text{CH}_2 \cdot \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ ;

or



or

TeO<sub>2</sub> or complexes of TeO<sub>2</sub>

(C)

or

PhTeCl<sub>3</sub>

(D)

or

(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>4</sub> P+ (TeCl<sub>3</sub> (O<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)) -

or

TeX<sub>4</sub>,

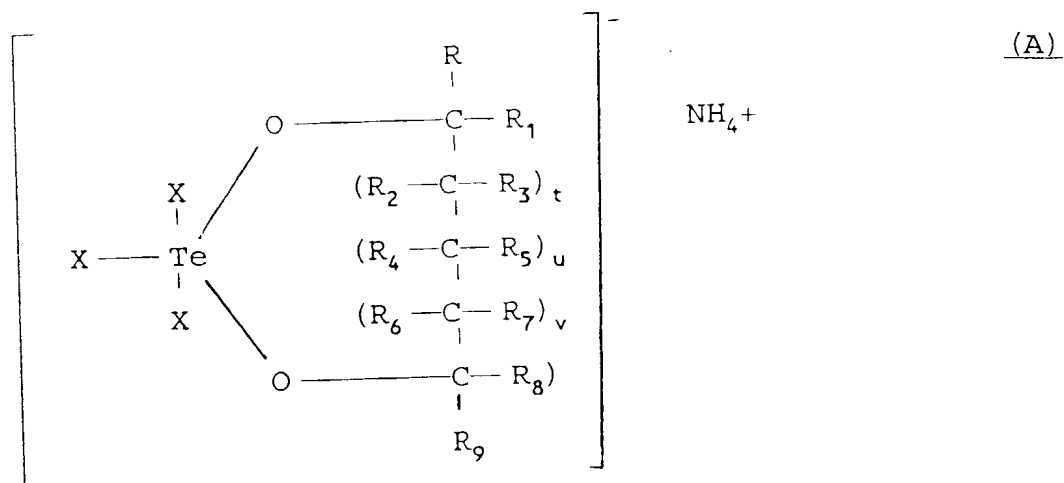
wherein t is 1 or 0; u is 1 or 0; v is 1 or 0; R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, and R<sub>9</sub> are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons, hydroxy, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, halogen, haloalkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, carboxy, alkylcarbonylalkyl of 2 to 10 carbons, alkanoyloxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, carboxyalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons atoms, acyl, amido, cyano, amidoalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons, N-monoalkylamidoalkyl of 2 to 10 carbons, N,N-dialkylamidoalkyl of 4 to 10 carbons, cyanoalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons alkoxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl of 2 to 10 carbon atoms 1 and -COR<sub>10</sub> wherein R<sub>10</sub> is alkyl of from 1 to 5 carbons; and X is halogen and complexes thereof.

4. (withdrawn) A feed composition as defined in Claim 3 wherein the compound is a tellurium compound which is ammonium trichloro (dioxoethylene-O,O') tellurate or the complex of TeO<sub>2</sub>, ethylene glycol and ammonium chloride.

5. (withdrawn) A feed composition as defined in Claim 3 wherein the source for tellurium is TeO<sub>2</sub>.

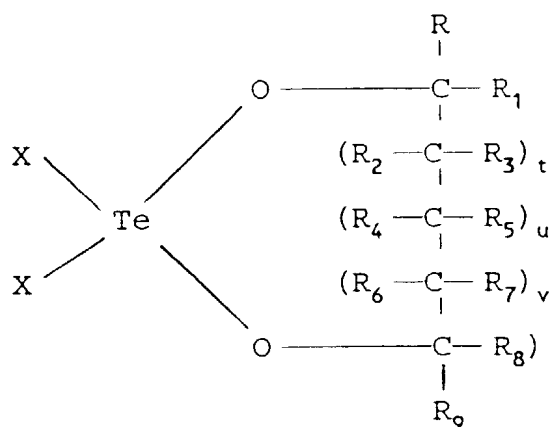
6. (currently amended) A method for enhancing weight gain in poultry, comprising orally administering to said poultry a feed composition comprising, as an active ingredient, a tellurium compound

~~s as defined in Claim 3~~ of the formula:



or the complex of  $\text{TeO}_2 \cdot \text{HOCH}_2\text{CH}_2 \cdot \text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ ;

or



(B)

or

$\text{TeO}_2$  or complexes of  $\text{TeO}_2$

(C)

or

$\text{PhTeCl}_3$

(D)

or

$(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_4\text{P}^+(\text{TeCl}_3(\text{O}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4))^-$

or

$\text{TeX}_{4L}$

wherein t is 1 or 0; u is 1 or 0; v is 1 or 0; R, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, and R<sub>9</sub> are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons, hydroxy, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, halogen, haloalkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, carboxy, alkylcarbonylalkyl of 2 to 10 carbons, alkanoyloxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, carboxyalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons atoms, acyl, amido, cyano, amidoalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons, N-monoalkylamidoalkyl of 2 to 10 carbons, N,N-dialkylamidoalkyl of 4 to 10 carbons, cyanoalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons alkoxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl of 2 to 10 carbon atoms 1 and -COR<sub>10</sub> wherein R<sub>10</sub> is alkyl of from 1 to 5 carbons; and X is halogen and complexes thereof.

7. (original) A method for enhancing the weight gain in poultry by feeding a feed composition comprising, by weight of the diet,

(a) a standard feeding diet containing about 0.0001% of a non-toxic source of selenium; and

(b) about 0.0005% of a tellurium compound.

8. (withdrawn) A dietary supplement for enhancing weight gain in poultry comprising

(a) a non-toxic source of selenium; and

(b) a tellurium compound.

9. (withdrawn) A dietary supplement for enhancing weight gain in poultry as set forth in claim 8 where the tellurium compound is organic tellurium.

10. (withdrawn) A feed composition as defined in Claim 3 where the tellurium compound is administered in combination with at least one vitamin or trace element.

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled)

13. (withdrawn) A composition as defined in Claim 3 wherein the tellurium compound is administered in combination with selenium.

14. (withdrawn) A composition as defined in Claim 3 wherein the non-toxic selenium source is sodium selenite.

15. (withdrawn) A composition as defined in Claim 3 wherein the tellurium compound is administered orally.

16. (withdrawn) A composition as defined in Claim 1 wherein the compound is administered in combination with vitamins either singly or in combination chosen from the group consisting of thiamine HCl, riboflavin, pyridoxine, niacin, inositol, choline chloride, calcium pantothenate, biotin, folic acid, ascorbic acid, vitamin B12, p-aminobenzoic acid, vitamin A, vitamin K, vitamin D, vitamin E.

17. (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a therapeutically effective amount of the compound as set forth in Claim 3 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

18. (currently amended) A method for feeding for enhancing poultry growth, ~~prophylaxis or treatment~~, which comprises administering to said poultry an ~~therapeutically~~ effective amount of the compound as set forth in Claim ~~[[3]]~~ 6.

19. (new) A method for feeding for enhancing poultry growth, which comprises administering to said poultry an effective amount of trichloro (dioxoethylene-O,O') tellurate.

20. (new) A method for feeding for enhancing poultry growth, which comprises administering to said poultry a feed containing from 0.1 to 20 grams per metric ton of feed of trichloro (dioxoethylene-0,0') tellurate.

21. (new) A method for feeding for enhancing the growth of poultry chicks, which comprises administering to said poultry chicks a feed containing from 0.1 to 20 grams per metric ton of feed of trichloro (dioxoethylene-0,0') tellurate.